

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 11 of the specification, beginning at line 13 and continuing on to the following page, please delete the referenced paragraph and substitute the following paragraph therefor:

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the air bag apparatus for side crash according to the first embodiment of the present invention. Referring to Fig. 4, the air bag apparatus in the first embodiment is composed of a bag module, an inflater 2, and an acceleration sensor 15 to detect acceleration in the side direction. The acceleration sensor 15 is ~~in indirect electrical communication with the inflater 2 via a control module (not shown)~~ schematically shown . A pair of the bag module and the inflater 2 is provided for the side section 3 of a seat. An air bag 1 is accommodated in the bag module. The air bag 1 before operation is folded to make the volume small. The inflater 2 spouts high-pressure gas at a moment, when the acceleration sensor 15 detects acceleration in the side direction above a predetermined value. A spouting port for the high-pressure gas is connected to a gas inflow port of the air bag 1. Thus, the high-pressure gas is supplied into the air bag 1 to expand the air bag 1 rapidly. It is desirable that the air bag 1 is covered with a cover which tears easily with the pressure on the expansion.

On page 12 of the specification, beginning at line 26 and continuing on to the following page, please delete the referenced paragraph and substitute the following paragraph therefor:

As shown in Fig. 7, the air bag 1 is composed of an air bag main section and a protrusion section 4, with one end of the main section receiving gas from the inflater 2. The main section 6 and the protrusion section 4 are formed as a unitary body by sewing two sheets of cloth. In the air bag 1 after the expansion, the

protrusion section 4 protrudes to the expansion direction L from the tip portion 6 of the main section in the air bag 1, such tip portion being disposed at an opposite end of the main section from the end which receives gas from the inflator 2. The protrusion section 4 has a pipe-like shape and extends substantially tangentially to the tip portion in a direction L' orthogonal to the air bag expansion direction L. The protrusion section 4 has openings 5 at opposing ends and the high-pressure gas spouts from the openings. That is, the openings function as vent holes 5.

On page 15 of the specification, at lines 13 -23, please delete the referenced paragraph and substitute the following paragraph therefor:

Fig. 11 shows the second modification of the air bag apparatus for side crash according to the first embodiment of the present invention. In the second modification of the air bag apparatus, the protrusion section 4 of the air bag 1 is further pushed into the inner space of the main section of the airbag prior to expansion between the both side panels inside out into the direction opposite to the expansion direction L, as shown in Fig. 11. Thus, the time to the full expansion of the air bag 1 can be adjusted. If any of vent holes 5 is present, the turning-over of the protrusion section 4 is effective.